

Appln. No.: 10/672,773  
Amendment Dated March 22, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of January 23, 2007

MATP-39902US1

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Remarks/Arguments:

Applicant's Attorney thanks Examiner Tran for granting the telephone interview on March 20, 2007. During that interview, it was agreed that the amendments to the claims overcame the rejection based on Le Gall et al. as that reference requires the formatter 18 to analyze a signal provided by the display device in order to provide the header information to the conversion unit 10.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the above-identified application.

Claims 1-2, 4-16 and 18-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Le Gall et al. and Examiner's assertion that "whether the sensing information and the display device are built integrally or separately is considered to be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art." Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this rejection.

With regard to claim 1, Le Gall et al. does not disclose or suggest,

... sensing information contained in a display device having a display format without analyzing a signal provided by the display device, the sensed information being provided by a manufacturer of the display device and being indicative of the display format of the display device...(Emphasis added).

Basis for this amendment may be found in paragraph [0190].

Le Gall et al. converts a raster display in a native format of an originating device 12 to a universal raster format so the raster display can be displayed by a receiving device 15. (Col. 3, lines 17-45). As shown at Fig. 1 of Le Gall et al., formatting boxes 14 and 18 receive signals from the originating device 12 and the receiving device 15, respectively. The signals contain information in the format that is native to each device. (Col. 3, lines 52-55, lines 65-67). Formatting boxes 14 and 18 then generate respective headers 20 and 22, that include fields for a plurality of raster display characteristics, based on the information contained in the received signals. (Col. 3, lines 43-50 and Fig. 2). Le Gall describes this information as being "implicitly in every native raster format." (See col. 2, lines 33-34). Le Gall further describes "[a] formatting program designated by box 14 of FIG. 1 [that] ... usually means no more than making explicit information which is usually contained implicitly in the raster display." (See col. 3, lines 43-50). Thus, sensing information provided by the devices in Le Gall et al. requires

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analyzing signals transmitted from each device. The formatter 18 is presumably the same as the formatter 14 as it is has the same name and is not described separately. Thus, it must also analyze a signal provided by the display device to make explicit formatting information that is implicit in the signal.

In contrast, according to the exemplary embodiment of Applicants' invention, the decoder system senses the information from the register contained in the display device and does not require analyzing a signal provided by the display device.

Because Le Gall et al. do not disclose or suggest the features of claim 1, claim 1 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 2 and 4-5 depend from claim 1. Accordingly, claims 2 and 4-5 are also not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

With regard to claim 6, while not identical to claim 1, it includes features similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Thus, claim 6 is also not subject to rejection for the same reasons as those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Claims 7-12 depend from claim 6. Accordingly, claims 7-12 are also not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claim 13, while not identical to claim 1, includes features similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Thus, claim 13 is also not subject to rejection for the same reasons as those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Claims 14-16 depend from claim 6. Accordingly, claims 14-16 are also not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

With regard to claim 18, while not identical to claim 1, it includes features similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Thus, claim 18 is also not subject to rejection for the same reasons as those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Claims 19-20 depend from claim 18. Accordingly, claims 19-20 are also not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 3 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Le Gall et al. and Michaud. Legall et al. is described above. Michaud teaches a system for delivering selective VCR control codes to programmable settop terminals over a CATV communication system. The system includes a headend for storing and transmitting VCR control code information to the settop terminals and a plurality of settop terminals for receiving the control codes. (Fig. 5). The CATV communication system delivers the VCR control codes to individual subscribers within the vertical blanking interval of one of the broadcast channels or over a control data channel. (Fig. 5). Neither Legall et al., Michaud et al., nor their

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combination disclose or suggest the features of claims 1 and 13 as described above with reference to Le Gall et al. Claim 3 depends from claim 1 and claim 17 depends from claim 13. Accordingly, claims 3 and 17 are also not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Le Gall et al. and Michaud for at least the same reasons as their base claims.

The prior art made of record but not applied has been considered but does not affect the patentability of the invention.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections of claims 1-20.

Respectfully submitted,

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KNN/pb

Dated: March 22, 2007

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March 22, 2007

Patricia C. Boccella